

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1690

By Yarbro

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Senator Brenda Gilmore for her service as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their districts and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Senator Brenda Gilmore of Nashville is one such distinguished public servant, who has served both her constituency and this legislative body with honor and ability; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2007, Brenda Gilmore was a two-term member of the Metropolitan Nashville Council, serving as chair of its Hospital and Social Services Committee and a member of its Budget and Finance, Planning and Zoning, Parks, Library and Recreation, and Tourism and Commerce committees; and

WHEREAS, first elected to the House of Representatives in 2006, Brenda Gilmore quickly became a leading voice at the State Capitol and distinguished herself as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 54th House District, whom she served as a member of the 105th through 110th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, she was elected to the Senate and transferred her considerable abilities to the 19th Senate District for the 111th and 112th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, during her sixteen-year tenure in the General Assembly, Senator Gilmore has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic life of Nashville, and she has

served her constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at her elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gilmore has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed member who always votes her conscience, and she has been a valuable member of the Council on Pensions, Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee, Joint Fiscal Review Committee, Senate Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, and the Senate Transportation and Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable lady has previously served her fellow legislators as chair of the Davidson County Legislative Delegation and the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators; and

WHEREAS, in other areas of the political realm, Senator Gilmore has rendered exemplary service as president of the Women's Network of the National Conference of State Legislators; chair of the Housing Committee and executive board member of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators; executive board member of the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators; state director of Women in Government; and a member of the Southern Legislative Conference's Fiscal Affairs and Government Operations Committee; and

WHEREAS, she has promoted participatory democracy and citizen engagement in Nashville's African-American community as chairman of the Nominating Committee of the League of Women Voters; a lifetime member and executive board member of the NAACP; vice president of the Music City Chapter of Links, Incorporated; chairman of the capital campaign and board member emeritus of the Northwest Nashville YMCA; an advisory board member of FiftyForward Bordeaux; a board member of the Urban League of Middle Tennessee; and advisory board chair of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in STEM; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Gilmore has proven that citizens can make a difference by being involved in their community, which principle she has demonstrated through her tenure as a

member of the Nashville Women's Political Caucus, Tennessee State University Alumni Association, Top Ladies of Distinction, and the Metro Nashville Greenways and Parks and Recreation Board; and

WHEREAS, she formerly served as president of C.A.B.L.E., National Hook-Up of Black Women, Women's Network, and the Minerva Foundation Board; Tennessee state coordinator of social action for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; chair of the Senior Expo; and a trustee of Belmont University; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Brenda Gilmore has been honored with Senior Citizens, Inc.'s Harriet Foley Volunteer Award; YMCA Volunteer of the Year Award; Thurgood Marshall Community Award; the Metro Human Relations Commission's Advocacy Award; the C.A.B.L.E. Spirit of Leadership Award; the Public Service Award presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Tennessee Masons, and the Tennessee State University Alumni Association; Pentecostal Tabernacle's Citizens Award; and the Excellent Public Services award presented by the Tennessee Economic Council on Women; and

WHEREAS, she has been inducted into the YWCA Academy for Women of Achievement and has been twice nominated for both the Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer of the Year Award and the Athena Award; and

WHEREAS, she expresses her faith as a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gilmore received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Tennessee State University and a master's degree in human resource development from Vanderbilt University, her former employer; she is also a graduate of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute, Leadership Vanderbilt, Leadership Nashville, and the Empowerment Congress Leadership Institute; and

WHEREAS, her many personal and professional accomplishments aside, Brenda Gilmore is most appreciative of the love and companionship she shares with her husband,

Harry; her daughter, Erica Gilmore, who serves as Davidson County Trustee; and her granddaughter, Anyah; and

WHEREAS, throughout her outstanding career as a public servant, Brenda Gilmore has worked tirelessly on behalf of her constituents, bringing to her office a progressive voice tempered by reason and common sense; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gilmore is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized upon her exemplary tenure in the General Assembly as she departs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Senator Brenda Gilmore for her meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend her for her countless contributions and many good works in service of the constituents of the 54th House District, the 19th Senate District, and the citizens of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.